



AG UPDATE

To access NASS and Colorado reports:
<http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

USDA NASS Colorado Field Office

PO Box 150969 Lakewood, CO 80215 Phone: (303)236-2300 1-800-392-3202 FAX: (303)236-2299 1-800-643-6885

Released: August 1, 2005

Vol. 25 No. 15

Contents of This Issue

- ▶Cattle Inventory
- ▶Cattle on Feed
- ▶Sheep Inventory
- ▶Livestock Slaughter
- ▶Chickens and Eggs
- ▶Agricultural Prices
- ▶Cold Storage

CATTLE INVENTORY JULY 1, 2005

All cattle and calves in the United States as of July 1, 2005, totaled 104.5 million head, 1 percent above the 103.6 million on July 1, 2004 and 1 percent above the 103.9 million two years ago. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.8 million, were 1 percent above the 42.5 million on July 1, 2004 and slightly above the 42.7 million two years ago. Beef cows, at 33.8 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2004 and up slightly from two years ago. Milk cows, at 9.05 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2004 but down 1 percent from two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2005 and the changes from July 1, 2004, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 16.2 million, up 2 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 5.0 million, up 4 percent.
- Milk replacement heifers, 3.7 million, up 3 percent.
- Other heifers, 7.5 million, down 1 percent.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.4 million, up 1 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, up 2 percent.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 29.0 million, up slightly. All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 12.0 million, up 2 percent.

The 2005 calf crop is expected to be 37.8 million, up slightly from 2004 but down slightly from 2003. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.5 million, up slightly from 2004 but down 1 percent from 2003.

Cattle and Calves United States, July 1, 2003-2005

Class	2003	2004	2005
	1,000 Head		
All Cattle and Calves	103,900	103,600	104,500
All Cows	42,700	42,500	42,800
Beef Cows.....	33,600	33,500	33,750
Milk Cows	9,100	9,000	9,050
Heifers 500 lbs. and Over	15,900	15,950	16,200
Beef Cow Replacement.....	4,600	4,800	5,000
Milk Cow Replacement	3,600	3,600	3,700
Other Heifers.....	7,700	7,550	7,500
Steers 500 lbs. and Over	14,200	14,200	14,400
Bulls 500 lbs. and Over.....	2,100	2,050	2,100
Calves Under 500 lbs.....	29,000	28,900	29,000
Calf Crop 1/	37,903	37,625	37,800

1/ For the current year, the calf crop is the number of calves born before July 1 plus the number expected to be born on and after July 1.

CATTLE ON FEED JULY 1, 2005

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 910,000 head as of July 1, 2005. The latest inventory was down 6 percent from June 1, 2005 and down 3 percent from the 940,000 on feed on July 1, 2004. The inventory included 560,000 steers and steer calves, unchanged from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 345,000 head, was down 8 percent from the previous year. The number of cows and bulls totaled 5,000, unchanged from last year's number. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 180,000 head of fed cattle during June 2005. This was 20 percent above May 2005 marketing's of 150,000 head but 12 percent below a year ago. An estimated 130,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during June, 10 percent below a year ago and 21 percent below May 2005 placements of 165,000. Of the number placed in June, 19 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 19 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 31 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 31 percent weighed 800 pounds or greater. Other disappearance during June, at 10,000 head, was down 33 percent from May but unchanged from June 2004.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.4 million head on July 1, 2005. The inventory was 3

percent above July 1, 2004 and 5 percent above July 1, 2003. The inventory included 6.81 million steers and steer calves, up 7 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 65 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.53 million head, down 5 percent from 2004. Placements in feedlots during June totaled 1.77 million, 7 percent above 2004 and 6 percent above 2003. Net placements were 1.71 million. During June, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 412,000, 600-699 pounds were 347,000, 700-799 pounds were 480,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 530,000. Marketing's of fed cattle during June totaled 2.07 million, 1 percent below 2004 and 7 percent below 2003. Other disappearance totaled 63,000 during June, 10 percent below 2004 but 3 percent above 2003.

Cattle on feed July 1, 2005, from all feedlots in the United States, totaled 12.0 million, up 2 percent from the 11.8 million on July 1, 2004 and up 2 percent from July 1, 2003. Cattle on feed in feedlots with 1,000 or more head accounted for 87 percent of the total cattle on feed on July 1, 2005, up from 86 percent on July 1, 2004.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, June 1 to July 1, 2004-2005**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 head			
On Feed June 1	1,010	970	970	10,769
Placements During June	145	130	1,647	1,769
< 600 pounds	30	25	460	412
600 - 699 Pounds	40	25	359	347
700 - 799 Pounds	45	40	453	480
800 Plus Pounds	30	40	375	530
Marketing's During June	205	180	2,085	2,073
Other Disap. During June	10	10	70	63
On Feed July 1	940	910	10,132	10,402
Steers & Steer Calves	560	560	6,379	6,805
Heifers & Heifer Calves	375	345	3,701	3,532
Cows & Bulls	5	5	52	65

SHEEP INVENTORY JULY 1, 2005

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on July 1, 2005, totaled 7.80 million head, 2 percent above July 1, 2004. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.66 million head on July 1, 2005 was 2 percent above July 1, 2004. Market sheep and lambs (including newborn lambs) at 3.14 million head, were 1 percent above last July. The breeding herd consists of 3.79 million ewes one year old and older, 185,000 rams one year old and older, and 680,000 replacement lambs (including newborn lambs). Market lamb inventory at 3.06 million head was comprised of 1.81 million lambs under 65 pounds, 635,000 lambs 65-84 pounds, 350,000 lambs 85-105 pounds, and 260,000 lambs over 105 pounds. Market sheep inventory was 90,000.

The 2005 Lamb Crop in the United States is expected to total

4.12 million head, up 1 percent from the 2004 lamb crop of 4.10 million head. Lambs born during January through June 2005 totaled 3.65 million head or 89 percent of the yearly total. An additional 470,000 head are expected to be born during the period July through December 2005.

**LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER
JUNE 2005**

Red meat production in Colorado during June 2005 totaled 166.6 million pounds, 14 percent below the 194.2 million pounds produced during June 2004. Cattle kill was down 16 percent from the previous year to 204,200 head but the average live weight increased 19 pounds to 1,242 pounds per head. Hog slaughter decreased 11 percent from the previous year, to 800 head, but the average live weight was up 38 pounds to 274. Accumulated production for the first six months of this year now totals 861.5 million pounds, 12 percent below the 982.0 billion pounds produced during the comparable period last year.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.96 billion pounds in June, up 1 percent from the 3.93 billion pounds produced in June 2004. Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was slightly above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.94 million head, down 2 percent from June 2004. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,246 pounds. Veal production totaled 13.2 million pounds, 1 percent below June a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,900 head, down 11 percent from June 2004. The average live weight was 31 pounds above last year, at 368 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.71 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.55 million head, 1 percent above June 2004. The average live weight was 4 pounds above the previous year, at 268 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.3 million pounds, was down 1 percent from June 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 222,900 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 4 pounds from June a year ago.

January to June 2005 commercial red meat production was 22.2 billion pounds, down slightly from 2004. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 9 percent, pork was up 1 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

**Red Meat Production
Colorado and United States**

Area and Specie	June	May	June	January-June	
	2004	2005	2005	2004	2005
	Million Pounds				
Colorado	194.2	157.7	166.6	982.0	861.5
United States	3,928	2,075	2,228	12,090	11,919
Beef	2,227	13.2	13.2	85.5	78.0
Veal	13.3	1,611	1,707	10,028	10,158
Pork	1,672	14.8	15.3	98.6	94.7
Lamb&Mutton	15.6	3,714	3,963	22,303	22,249

AGRICULTURAL PRICES JULY 15, 2005

The **All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers** in July at 119, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 1 point (0.8 percent) from June. The Crop Index is down 3 points (2.5 percent) while the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received lower commodity prices for lettuce, cattle, grapes, and broccoli. Higher prices were received for corn, asparagus, eggs, and milk. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketing's of grapes, wheat, and tomatoes offset decreased marketing's of milk, cantaloupes, and asparagus.

The July **All Crop Index** is 119, down 2.5 percent from June and 0.8 percent below July 2004. The July all wheat price, at \$3.25 per bushel, is up 2 cents from June but down 12 cents from July 2004. The corn price, at \$2.15 per bushel, is up 12 cents from last month but 36 cents below July 2004. The all hay price, at \$99.70 per ton, is \$2.30 below June but up \$9.30 from last July. The soybean price, at \$6.84 per bushel, increased 26 cents from June but is \$1.62 below July 2004.

The July **Livestock and Product Index**, at 118, is unchanged from last month but down 7.8 percent from July 2004. The July hog price, at \$49.30 per cwt, is down 30 cents from June and \$7.80 lower than a year ago. The July beef cattle price of \$86.30 is down \$2.20 from last month and \$1.80 lower than July 2004. The July all milk price of \$14.80 is up 30 cents from last month but down \$1.30 from July 2004.

Prices Received and Paid Summary United States

Index 1990-92 = 100	2004		2005	
	June	July	June	July
	Percent			
Prices Received	128	124	120	119
Prices Paid	135	135	140	140
Ratio 1/	95	92	86	85

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

Compared with July 2004, all **Colorado** crop prices averaged higher except all wheat and corn. All livestock prices average lower. Mid-July 2005 wheat, at \$3.20 per bushel, decreased 2 cents from the previous month and was 12 cents below July a year ago. Corn prices increased 3 cents from June to \$2.20 per bushel but averaged 70 cents below July 2004. The mid-July potato price was 65 cents higher than last month at \$4.80 per cwt, and \$1.30 per cwt higher than July a year ago. The dry bean average price, at \$30.50 per cwt, decreased 20 cents from last month but was \$10.70 per cwt higher than July a year ago. Alfalfa hay averaged \$99.00 per ton, \$12.00 higher than June and up \$16.00 from July 2004. Other hay at, \$87.00 per ton, up \$12.00 from both last month and July a year ago. The mid-July steer and heifer price unchanged from last month at \$109.00 per cwt but averaged \$4.00 below the \$113.00 per cwt a year ago. Cow prices were down \$1.30 to \$54.80 per cwt and were \$6.20 per cwt lower than July 2004.

Calf prices, at \$139.00 per cwt, were \$5.00 below last month and \$6.00 lower than the \$145.00 per cwt received a year ago. The July all milk price of \$14.70 is up 20 cents from last month .

Average Prices Received By Farmers 1/

Item	Unit	Colorado		
		July 2004	June 2005	July 2005
Crops				
Dollars				
Wheat.....	Bu.	3.32	3.22	3.20
Corn	Bu.	2.90	2.17	2.20
Barley (All).....	Bu.	2/	2/	2/
Potatoes	Cwt	3.50	4.15	4.80
Dry edible beans	Cwt	19.80	30.70	30.50
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	83.00	87.00	99.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	75.00	75.00	87.00
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	112.00	108.00	108.00
Steers & heifers	Cwt	113.00	109.00	109.00
Cows.....	Cwt	61.00	56.10	54.80
Calves	Cwt	145.00	144.00	139.00
Sheep	Cwt	43.70	37.20	3/
Lambs	Cwt	109.00	117.00	3/
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	3/	14.20	14.70
United States				
Dollars				
Wheat.....	Bu.	3.37	3.23	3.25
Corn	Bu.	2.51	2.03	2.15
Soybeans.....	Bu.	8.46	6.58	6.84
Barley (All).....	Bu.	2.54	2.57	2.27
Barley (Feed).....	Bu.	2.21	2.07	1.80
Sorghum	Cwt	4.27	3.85	4.11
Potatoes	Cwt	6.46	7.66	8.73
Dry edible beans	Cwt	19.20	27.50	24.40
Alfalfa hay (baled).....	Ton	98.40	112.00	109.00
Other hay (baled).....	Ton	70.90	73.60	75.90
Onions	Cwt	16.40	22.40	21.20
Livestock & Products				
Beef Cattle	Cwt	88.10	88.50	86.30
Steers & heifers	Cwt	91.40	91.90	89.60
Cows.....	Cwt	56.30	57.00	55.60
Calves	Cwt	130.00	138.00	133.00
Sheep	Cwt	37.10	40.90	3/
Lambs	Cwt	101.00	114.00	3/
Hogs.....	Cwt	57.10	49.60	49.30
Milk sold to plants.....	Cwt	16.10	14.50	14.80
Broilers	Lb.	.520	.440	.440

1/ Prices received by farmers refer to prices at the point of first sale out of farmer's hands and should not be confused with prices of specific grades or classes of a particular agricultural commodity. They do not include direct government payments.

2/ Insufficient data to establish price. 3/ Discontinued.

CHICKENS AND EGG PRODUCTION JUNE 2005

Laying flocks in **Colorado** produced 86 million eggs during June 2005, down 2 percent from 88 million eggs produced June 2004. The number of layers averaged 3.77 million during June of this year, down 3 percent from 3.90 million for June 2004. The June 2005 egg production per 100 layers was 2,284 up 1 percent from 2,259 eggs per 100 layers in June 2004.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.34 billion during June 2005, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.25 billion table eggs, and 1.10 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 61 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during June 2005 averaged 341 million, down slightly from a year earlier. June egg production per 100 layers was 2,151 eggs, up 1 percent from June 2004.

All layers in the U.S. on July 1, 2005, totaled 340 million, down 1 percent from a year ago. The 340 million layers consisted of 281 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 56.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.59 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on July 1, 2005, averaged 72.3 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from a year ago.

COLD STORAGE JUNE 30, 2005

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on June 30, 2005 were greater than year earlier levels for pork, eggs, vegetables, and potatoes. Butter stocks were up 2 percent from last month, but down 4 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were up slightly from last month, and up 7 percent from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 4 percent from last month, but up 32 percent from the previous year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 14 percent from last month, but up 90 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on June 30, 2005 were up 5 percent from the previous month, but down 13 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were up 3 percent from the previous month, but down 11 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up 9 percent from last month, but down 15 percent from June 30, 2004.

Public cooler occupancy on June 30, 2005, was at

52 percent of capacity, up 6 points from last year. Public freezer occupancy, was at 63 percent, up 5 points from last year.

Stocks in Storage, United States

Commodity	June 30, 2004	May 31, 2005	June 30, 2005
1,000 Pounds			
Butter	189,183	178,049	181,888
Cheese, total natural.....	842,047	810,648	815,619
Eggs, frozen	18,256	17,667	19,867
Poultry, total frozen	1,373,065	1,133,742	1,195,050
Chicken.....	774,553	664,224	685,585
Turkey.....	597,576	469,051	508,947
Fruits, frozen.....	819,835	687,592	765,405
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	2,366,850	1,968,100	1,812,046
Vegetables, total frozen	1,411,984	1,485,020	1,518,233
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,128,654	1,178,072	1,192,543
Meats, total red	797,871	848,511	850,554
Beef, total frozen.....	411,767	318,263	339,848
Pork, total frozen.....	373,007	512,696	491,738

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Food stocks are excluded for places where entire inventories are turned over more than once a month.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at:

<http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

- Aug. 12 - Crop Production
- Aug. 12 - Turkey Hatchery
- Aug. 16 - Milk Production
- Aug. 16 - Mushrooms
- Aug. 19 - Livestock Slaughter
- Aug. 19 - Cattle on Feed
- Aug. 22 - Cold Storage
- Aug. 23 - Chickens and Eggs
- Aug. 31 - Agricultural Prices

R. Reneé Picanso
Director

Steve Anderson
Deputy Director